

MEPI *Hands For Peace* Conference

montessori

montessori educational programs international



MEPI
PO BOX 6
Smithville, IN 47458

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INTERNATIONAL
MONTESSORI
CONGRESS
PORTLAND, OREGON USA

"MONTESSORI: GUIDED BY NATURE"
July 31 - August 3, 2013

“The Science of Life”

MEPI International “Hands for Peace” Conference

February 22nd & 23rd 2013

Keynote Address by

Maren Schmidt

“Building Brains
the Montessori Way”



Conference Location:



14276 Ocean Hwy
Pawleys Island, SC 29585
1-888-766-4633

Sunday, Feb 24th, Bonus Workshop at
Brookgreen Gardens

Schedule: Friday, February 22, 2013

7:15– 8:00am	Check in and on-site Registration		
8:00–8:30	Opening Ceremony and recognition of graduates		
8:45–10:15	Session A	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Level</u>
	A-1. Music with the Bells.....	J Jutras & J Armstrong	EC
	A-2. Art Through the Spiritual Needs of Man	P Dodd, L Watson, E Renkin	EL, Admin, P
	A-3. Incorporating Fire Safety Education (Make - n- Take)	Maria Bostian	All
	A-4. The Wonder of Water.....	C Sadowski & K Schweizer	IT, EC, EL
	A-5. Tips for Teaching the Adult Learner.....	Leila O'Neal	C/T
	A-6. Science of Yoga Basics: Daily Practice Part 1	Mercedes Stewart	All
10:15–10:45	Visit Exhibitor Hall and the Silent Auction during the break.		
10:45–11:45	Session B		
	B-1. Planning and Record Keeping? Are you Kidding?	Teresa Noble	EC
	B-2. Propagating - Simple Multiplication.....	Antonette Ursits	All
	B-3. Practical Life in Lower Elementary	Brenda Barrett-Coleman	EL
	B-4. Peace is More Than Just a Table	C Muhlbauer & M Hines	IT
	B-5. New Paradigm for Working with Generations Y and Z	Sandra Pokos	IT, EC, C/T
	B-6. Montessorians on the Move	Linda Brashier	All
12:00–1:00	Lunch —Please join us for a light lunch in the Tara Ballroom.		
1:00–2:30	Keynote—Maren Schmidt	<u>Building Brains the Montessori Way</u>	
	What do our children need to build better brains? What do we do in properly prepared Montessori environments that helps build better brains? In this talk, Maren Schmidt will help us find answers to these questions:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the important things for our children to learn and ? • What do children's brains need to maximize learning and ? • How do Montessori principles, methods and materials support brain development? 		
2:45–3:45	Session C		
	C-1. Anny Hyatt Huntington--Science Inspires Art	Teresa Noble	EC, EL
	C-2. Labyrinths 101	Beth Langley	All
	C-3. Keep it Simple and Start a School	Martha McGlinchy Teien	All
	C-4. Better than Push Pins! (Make & Take)	Jen Fuller	EC, EL
	C-5. The Hiring Process.....	John Moncure	Admin
	C-6. Jump, Shake and Spin a Tale with Mozart	Oscar Avila	EC, EL
3:45–4:15	Visit Exhibitor Hall and the Silent Auction during the break.		
4:15–5:45	Session D		
	D-1. A Four Period Lesson	Erika Ohlhaber	EC, EL, AD, Admin P
	D-2. The First Labyrinth Lessons PLUS!	Beth Langley	All
	D-3. Peace and Communications with our Parents	Martha McGlinchy Teien	All
	D-4. For the Love of Sea Turtles: Lessons and More!	Tina Henderson	EL, AD
	D-5. Look, Think, Look, Collaborate	Floyd Creech	IT, EC
	D-6. Sing and Share.....	S Forseth & C Leslie	IT
6:00–7:30	Munch and Mingle (with cash bar) ... and door prizes but you must be present to win!		

The Science of Silence. Head to the Reflection Room!

Enjoy a "Piece of Quiet" in the Reflection Room. This year's quiet space is devoted to peace table and quiet time activities for all ages. Discover how reenergizing it can be to take some "Time In" to reflect and refocus.

Facilitators for the Reflection Room include Susan Putnam and Beth Langley.

Additionally, Mercedes Stewart will be available for breath work "by chance or by schedule".

**Admin = Administrators | IT = Infant/Toddler | EC = Early Childhood
EL = Elementary | AD = Adolescent | P = Parents | C/T = Certified Teachers/Teacher Educators**

Schedule: Saturday, February 23, 2013

7:00– 8:00am **Breakfast at Webster's, check in and on-site registration**
 8:00– 8:30 **Annual General Meeting (AGM), Announcements and Level 1 School Recognition**

	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Level</u>
8:45—10:15	Session E	
	E-1. "A Summer to Remember" - Summer in Life Science Pt 1 <small>EC</small> Daniel Jutras	EC
	E-2. You've Got What? E Hughes & F Fennell	EC
	E-3. Handwriting in the Montessori Classroom Susan Scheibenzuber	EC, EL
	E-4. It's Sciencel! Andrea Alexandria	EC, EL
	E-5. Discovering the Science Within Human Nature..... BW & R Holcombe	All
	E-6. Geometry City and Kinesthetic Geometry Teena Kyer	EL
10:15—10:45	Visit Exhibitor Hall and the Silent Auction during the break.	
10:45—12:15	Session F	
	F-1. "A Summer to Remember" - Summer in Life Science Pt 2 <small>EL</small> Daniel Jutras	EL
	F-2. Earth Day: Earth Friendly Activities for the Classroom Jennifer Hles Sherman	EC
	F-3 Sea creatures, Toddlers, and Science, Oh, My! Toni Joseph	IT
	F-4. It's Elementary, Dr. Montessori Marjorie Carson	EL, AD
	F-5. Adult Learners: A Workshop for Teacher Educators Floyd Creech	C/T
	F-6 Science of Yoga Basics: Daily Practice Part 2..... Mercedes Stewart	All
12:15—1:45pm	Lunch - A list of lunch establishments may be viewed at the registration area.	
1:45—2:45	Session G	
	G-1. Discovering the Secrets of the Three-hour Work Cycle Maren Schmidt	All
	G-2. 360 Degree Plant-Program Aug to May in the Classroom. Elizabeth Cain	All
	G-3. That Rocks! Learning Fun with Gemstones & Minerals..... L Bergrud & J Fuller	EC, EL
	G-4. Nature and Self-Mastery..... F Tarantino & I Irwin	IT, EC
	G-5. A Seed is a Promise Cheryl Spencer	All
	G-6. Adolescent Round Table..... TBD	AD
2:45—3:15	Visit Exhibitor Hall during the break and the Silent Auction Bidding ends.	
3:15—4:45	Session H	
	H-1. Critical Keys for Understanding the Mathematical Mind ... Maren Schmidt	EC, EL
	H-2. Connections: Science and Creativity Sherry Sweet	All
	H-3. Connecting the Urban/Suburban Child to Nature Sasha Malashenko	All
	H-4. The Sensory Scientist! S Forseth & C Leslie	IT
	H-5. Learning to Laugh, Laughing to Learn..... Kristie Norwood	All
	H-6. Nurturing Creativity M Mosby & H Mosby	EL, AD, Admin, P
5:00—6:00	Closing Ceremony	

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Enjoy a "Piece of Quiet" in the Reflection Room. This year's quiet space is devoted to peace table and quiet time activities for all ages. Discover how reenergizing it can be to take some "Time In" to reflect and refocus. Facilitators for the Reflection Room include Susan Putnam and Beth Langley. Additionally, Mercedes Stewart will be available for breath work "by chance or by schedule".

Sunday Bonus at Brookgreen Gardens!

9:30 – 12:30 BG-1. Science Explorations and More! **Mary Helen Cline, Betti Wyn Holcombe**

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Cancellation Policy

A written request for all refunds must be sent to the MEPI business office no later than March 5, 2013. Requests received after this date will not be honored. Membership fees are non-refundable.
 a. Refund of registration fee less \$35 processing fee if received by Feb. 1, 2013.
 b. After Feb. 1, 2012 an additional \$45 for food and beverages will also be deducted from the refund."

Workshops & Presenters—Friday, February 22

Session A

A-1. Music with the Bells—Are the bells in your classroom used more for the dusting activity than for the joy of music? Come join us for a hands-on discovery of the beauty of the Montessori bells. We will grow from basic lessons to variations and extensions for individual as well as group presentations. You will leave with a renewed confidence in your abilities to inspire the joy of music in your school.

Julien Jutras & Julie Armstrong—Julie and Julien are both Early Childhood Master Teachers for the Canadian Montessori Teacher Education Institute in Toronto Canada.

A-2. Art Through the Spiritual Needs of Man—Working through art, have the children experience the difference in art through the ages. Having them realize the power of the spirit through "Art".

Patty Dodd & Lynette Watson—Patty has been working in the Montessori environment for the last 7.5 years in both the lower and upper elementary levels. Lynette has been Patty's mentor. Patty recently received her lower elementary diploma.

A-3. Incorporating Fire Safety Education into Your Busy School Year: A Make & Take Experience—Preschool children are at risk of fire and burn injuries/death. Come to this presentation to:

discuss fire safety as essential information for young children, learn exciting ways to incorporate fire safety into preschool/elementary programs, and create materials/crafts to take back and share with others at your school.

Maria Bostian—Maria is the Fire & Life Safety Educator for Kannapolis (N.C.) Fire Department, a former Montessori elementary teacher, and a 2012 Endicott/TIES graduate with a M.Ed. in Montessori Integrative Learning. She enjoys sharing fire safety education with others.

A-4. The Wonder of Water—Water can fascinate a toddler.

Water can teach determination and concentration. Water is needed for survival. Join us through all ages of development as we explore the need for water in all levels of Montessori.

Chrissy Sadowski & Katherine Schweizer—Chrissy and Katherine are both lower elementary teacher trainers. Katherine also teaches upper elementary while Chrissy teaches infant/ toddler/and early childhood.

A-5. Tips for Teaching the Adult Learner—This workshop will offer tips for teaching the adult learner. The workshop will focus on the brain research for accelerating learning, featuring the work of Mel Silberman. The participants will experience and practice some of strategies.

Leila O'Neal—Leila has been teaching for 36 years, 16 in private schools and 20 years in the public schools in South Carolina. She holds National Board Certification, an Education Specialist and Masters Degree in Elementary Education. She currently teaches the only Montessori Lower Elementary class in Berkeley County School District.

A-6. Science of Yoga Basics: Daily Practice Part 1—If you have always yearned to learn yoga and have been hesitant to join a class or if you think that you are just not meant for yoga but are curious. Come. If you have some experience but are finding yourself burnt-out and uninspired. Come. If you have had many classes but no breathing practice. Come. Yoga truly is for every Body. This workshop is step-by-step instructional breakdown of a beginning personal practice. Mercedes will be available for private class time on a appts made on a first-come-first-served basis and will be available in the "Reflection Room" at times during the weekend. Email Mercedes at mercystewart@yahoo.com to preregister for the class and receive a pre-conference questionnaire for a more personalized experience.

Mercedes Stewart—Mercedes is the owner and Directress of Mercy's Garden, Richlands Montessori Preschool and holds a MEPI certification as well as Yoga Teacher certification from Kavalyadhama, Yoga Institute in Lonavla, India. She has taught Yoga for more than 10 years.

Session B

B-1. Planning and Record Keeping? Are you Kidding?—The best individualized instruction must be guided by record keeping and planning. But how it that accomplished while allowing the teacher to have a life? Participants will learn how to painlessly plan and keep up to date records without infringing on precious personal time. They may even discover that there are many benefits and that teaching is easier and more effective.

Teresa Noble—Teresa is a 28 year veteran of SC public schools. She holds a BA in Early Childhood Education, an MA in Special Education, and is certified as an Early Childhood Guide by MEPI. She is Early Childhood Program Director for the Institute of Guided Studies and serves on the board of directors for MACTE.

B-2. Propagating - Simple Multiplication—Botany extensions are such a great area to "play" with students of any age. Lessons in propagation not only teach children real life skills in plant care and plant propagation techniques, it encourages children to be respectful of living things and allows them to "take a piece of the classroom home."

Antonette Ursits—Antonette teachers at the Coastal Charter Montessori School in Pawleys Island. She holds credentials for primary and lower elementary.

B-3. Practical Life in Lower Elementary—Practical life in the Lower Elementary is often overlooked. The workshop will not only focus on the importance of practical life, it will provide directors ideas of monthly or theme practical life lessons to incorporate in the classroom.

Brenda Barrett-Coleman—Brenda is a Lower Elementary Classroom Director and she holds a MA in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix. She joined MSC in 2002 and is MEPI certified at the Lower Elementary level and is an Orton-Gillingham tutor.

B-4. Peace is More Than Just a Table...Creating Peace Areas in the Infant and Toddler Environment—Peace is very integral to the Montessori environment, and in being an authentic Montessori environment, infant & toddler classrooms have many opportunities to help guide our children towards peace and being peacekeepers. This session will offer many ideas & be open to discussion on bringing peace to your school.

Christina Muhlbauer and Meredith Hines—Meredith & Christina work together at the Montessori School of Camden. Meredith is the Toddler, Extended day & Summer Director, and is certified by MEPI at the Early Childhood & Infant/Toddler Level. Christina is the Infant Director and is currently in her internship with MEPI for Infant/Toddler.

B-5. Montessori Education and Its Scientific Basis--the New Paradigm for Working with Generations Y and Z—Let's rethink how best to guide early childhood teachers so they acquire advanced skills in Montessori pedagogy. Cutting edge research and insight can inform, improve, and energize educators' work with children.

Sandra Pokos—Sandra is the owner and director of Little Heart Montessori School of Zagreb, (Croatia, Europe). She is an Early Childhood director, Teacher trainer and Trainer of the trainers for International Educational Management Studies. She is on the board of MEPI and a member of MEPI Teacher Education Committee.

B-6. Montessorians on the Move—Put your dancing shoes on and join me in learning a few beginner line dances. I will teach you the steps first. We will practice and then try out the pattern to music. No prior experience is necessary. If you can move and remember a pattern, you can do it. This fun activity is the science of motion and patterns with lots of body and brain benefits.

Linda Brashier—Linda teaches Upper Elementary students in a public school district in Gray Court, SC. She has 3-6 and 6-12 Montessori Certification from MEPI and works as a teacher trainer for IGS.

Workshops and Presenters—Friday, February 22

Session C

C-1. Anny Hyatt Huntington--Science Inspires Art—Anna Hyatt Huntington was a master of naturalistic animal sculpture. Her studies of the natural world came alive through her observation of nature. Many of her sculptures reside at Brookgreen Gardens. Help your students learn about Anna using activities presented in this workshop.

Teresa Noble—Refer to B-1.

C-2. Labyrinths 101—An Introduction to labyrinths through photos, stories, and exploration. Enjoy learning about labyrinths and ways to use them in the classroom.

Beth Langley—Beth was introduced to labyrinths over ten years ago, and began studying them intently. Soon this calling from the labyrinth became an obsession, and much of her time is now spent on all things labyrinthine. Beth Langley has a BA from Columbia College, a MEPI credential at the Primary Level, is a Veriditas certified labyrinth facilitator, and has a love of art—all things creative. Beth will also be presenting at the 2013 International Montessori Congress!

C-3. Keep it Simple and Start a School—Here is the workshop that will give you that little shove needed to start a small school. It is a very practical exercise in what can be an overwhelming prospect. It is vital to start with each participant's state licensing regulations so bring your with you! This will help determine square footage requirements, playground needs, and staffing!

Martha McGlinchy Teien—Martha is an MEPI directress who owns a school in Avon, CO. Her school is made up of 2 classrooms for 3-6. She has her Masters in Montessori Education from St. Catherine University in St. Paul, MN. This is her 17th year of teaching as a Montessori guide. She also serves on the MEPI Board of Directors.

C-4. Better than Push Pins! (Make & Take)*—Participants will make their own tool for paper pricking; curious? Come to this make and take to make this great addition to your classroom. Participants will make a felt/cork pad for a punching surface and will be presented with different lessons to utilize their new tool, including sewing applications!

***This workshop will be limited to the first 15 participants. If you are selected you will receive a "ticket" to enter.**

Jen Fuller—Jen is the co-owner of Origins Montessori Academy, a single-room classroom for students ages 5 to 15. She has a BA in Business Administration and is a certified Montessori 3-6 Guide. She is currently pursuing her Montessori Elementary Certification.

C-5. The Hiring Process—Hiring new staff members in a small school is one of the most important processes a head of school can lead. We need just the right "teachable" personality, skills, instincts; a team player and will remain a productive faculty member for years to come. Dr. Moncure suggests a process to find the right fit.

John Moncure—Dr. Moncure is Headmaster of the Montessori School of Camden (SC) and president of the Board of MEPI. A retired Army colonel, he is the author of numerous articles on topics of Montessori administration and holds a PhD from Cornell University.

C-6. Jump, Shake and Spin a Tale with Mozart—We will create a story that interprets the mood, tempo, and texture of a piece of classical music using our bodies, minds, and percussion instruments. Engaging imagination in a constructive activity together offers opportunities for personal and interpersonal growth, developing self-confidence, and fosters a creative community.

Oscar Avila—Oscar is a certified Montessori guide at the Early Childhood level and certified Orff instructor. He plays classical guitar and is in his fourth year at the Montessori School of Camden (SC).

Session D

D-1. A Four Period Lesson—This presentation will discuss the traditional Three Period Lesson and the avocation that not only is it for language development, but with an additional change, bring Montessori pedagogy to the cutting edge of current brain research.

Erika Ohlhaber—Erika has over 30 years of Montessori experience as a classroom leader, trainer, curriculum designer, and presenter. She is president of ETC Consulting.

D-2. The First Labyrinth Lessons PLUS!—This workshop will prepare you to demonstrate the labyrinth lesson with confidence. We will make labyrinth "seeds" for making a labyrinth that will fit on most work mats or small rugs. Add a few items from your classroom closet and your labyrinth lesson will be ready for your classroom. Choose from a variety of art projects for even more fun make-n-take.

Beth Langley—Refer to C-2.

D-3. Peace and Communications with our Parents—Sometimes the hardest part of a day for a Montessorian is not providing an authentic Montessori education – but communicating with families. I have developed a curriculum for guides to use in creating peaceful and open relationships with families. This step by step process is a match for small and large schools. It is also flexible and can be individualized to meet the specific needs of any community.

Martha McGlinchy Teien—Refer to C-3.

D-4. For the Love of Sea Turtles: Lessons and More!—Sea turtles have been a part of our earth's history for over 100 million years. All seven species are listed on the endangered species list. We, as educators, must enlighten and inspire our future generations to collaborate together in an effort to save this ancient creature. Love live sea turtles!

Tina Henderson—Originally from Montana, Tina now resides in Missouri, where she teaches children through 8th grade at Origins Montessori Academy. She has a BS in biology. Tina is a true lover of nature, with a wild streak and passion for sea turtles.

D-5. Look, Think, Look, Collaborate—The movements and disposition of children inform us about their development. This workshop, modeled after the work of Agie Santos and Anna Tardos at the Loczy Institute in Budapest, will teach us to be mindful observers of children. The simple process of objective observation when considered and shared become the catalyst for meaningful change and confirmation of our beliefs as teachers.

Floyd Creech—Floyd Creech, Ph.D. is the director of Florence School District One Montessori Teacher Education Program and the Palmetto Montessori Institute. He also directs the Child Development Center at RN Beck in Florence School District One. Dr. Creech is also a program reviewer and on site team leader for the MACTE accreditation process.

D-6. Sing and Share—As each toddler environment establishes its own sequence and routine, it creates a culture of singing, rhythm and joy unique to them! Come to interact and share ideas ... you'll be sure to take some home as well.

Sarah Forseth and Carolyn Leslie—Carolyn has been a member of the E.C. Montessori and Grade School staff since 2002. She became Directress of the Toddler classroom in 2004 after completing her MEPI Infant and Toddler certification. Carolyn is a graduate of the State University of New York in Albany where she received a degree in Psychology. She and her husband reside in Beaufort, SC, with their two young boys. She also serves as an Infant/Toddler Field Supervisor for Institute For Guided Studies.

Workshops & Presenters—Saturday, February 23

Session E

E-1. "A Summer to Remember" - Summer in Life Science Part 1

EC—As more and more Montessori schools provide summer camps programs, we propose many scientific activities for two summer months focusing on sciences for children. Come and be inspired by a broad array of scientific activities and experimentations in botany, zoology and entomology. Make children's summer fulfilling and memorable. A book is available at the e-Montessori table in the exhibitors' hall.

Daniel Jutras—Dr. Jutras, founder, director and Teacher Trainer at the Canadian Montessori Teacher Education Institute has prepared over 1,400 Montessori teachers and tutored Montessori courses in many places. He has a Ph.D. in Education from Ottawa U. and two international Montessori Diplomas: AMI diploma from Perugia, Italy and St., Nicholas Mont. Advanced diploma from England.

E-2. You've Got What?—Bring the parts of the animal families to life through art, song, and dance.

Erin Hughes and Frances Fennell—Erin and Frances are long term teaching partners at L and L Montessori School in Southport, NC. Both have backgrounds in dance, theater, and art, and love to incorporate these interests in their classrooms.

E-3. Handwriting in the Montessori Classroom—Handwriting exercises engage the brain in a way that calms and directs children to focus differently. A simple, sequenced method for creating handwriting work in the classroom will be presented along with samples of children's handwriting. A teacher guide book is included for participants.

Susan Scheibenzuber—Susan is an AMS trained Montessori teacher who has taught for 30 years. She founded Park Montessori School, taught as a preprimary teacher and elementary art teacher and has been a school director. She is a member of the Cincinnati Montessori Society. Susan owns Laughing Star, a Montessori materials company.

E-4. It's Science!—Andrea will provide motivation in this workshop encouraging hands on science experiments using simple and inexpensive materials. The science area can be an exciting place to learn how to use open ended questions and the six basic process skills as a guide for teaching and motivating your students.

Andrea Alexandria—Author of *The Frugal Scientist*, Andrea is a masters level organic chemist and owner of Fun Science, Inc.

E-5. Discovering the Science Within Human Nature—What cognitive steps do we take from babyhood to adulthood? How do we obtain knowledge and wisdom? Are there natural patterns of mental development? What can we learn from scientists, philosophers, and artists? Let's explore these ideas and apply them to the Montessori environment.

Beti Wyn and Randall Holcombe—Beti Wyn and Randall are life-long learners with a passion for philosophy, Montessori education and science. Beti Wyn has been a Montessori teacher since 1973, with Randall's constant intellectual and technological input and support.

E-6. Geometry City and Kinesthetic Geometry—Geometry concepts are reinforced while the students design a themed city and incorporate geometric shapes. Writing is incorporated through poetry and advertisements. Reading is incorporated through biographies. Cubism art is also a part of the project. The Kinesthetic Geometry teaches shapes through movement.

Teena Kyer—Teena is AMD certified 6 to 12 teacher since 2003. Med in Learning disabilities from Frances Marion University. Upper elementary teacher and director of Montessori School of Florence. Coordinator of the Palmetto Training Institute and secretary of the SCMA.

Session F

F-1. "A Summer to Remember" - Summer in Life Science Part 2

EL—Refer to E-1.

Daniel Jutras—Refer to E-1.

F-2. Earth Day: Earth Friendly Activities for the Primary Classroom

—This workshop will provide activities to enhance the awareness of conservation by using recycled materials to create geography and art projects. Time will also be spent on collaborating about community environmental projects and field trips for your students. Also included are enrichment activities: Trees, Bees, and Me; activities and art projects to appreciate why trees and bees are important to us.

Jennifer Hles Sherman—Jennifer, Founder and Director of Oak Grove Montessori since 1997. Jennifer received a BA in Special Education (1984) and her Primary Montessori Training (AMI) at the Washington Montessori Institute in Washington, D.C. (1989) Jennifer has been teaching in the Montessori classroom since 1989.

F-3. Sea creatures, Toddlers, and Science, Oh, My!—Introduce toddlers to the world of science by providing observation opportunities and sensorial experiences right in your classroom. Toni will share tips and classroom ideas to bring the sea and its creatures to the inquisitive scientists in your toddler classroom.

Toni Joseph—Toni Joseph is the lead toddler guide at St. Andrews Montessori School, Macon, Ga. She has worked in the toddler environment for 5 years. She is currently working on her Infant Toddler Montessori certification.

F-4. It's Elementary, Dr. Montessori—De-mystifying quantum physics for students (and teachers). Attendees will receive lesson plans for the building blocks of the universe—the elements, the periodic table, atoms, and their component parts. These are foundations for learning about electricity, isotopes, radioactivity, geology, chemistry and more.

Marjorie Carson—Co-founder of Brookside Montessori and teacher there for 31 years. Co-creator, with my husband, a physicist, of a basic physics curriculum and associated lessons and materials for the Montessori Elementary.

F-5. Adult Learners: A Workshop for Montessori Teacher Educators

—Lecture, Albums, Oral Exams, Written Exams, Observations, Outcomes Data have become the standard practice and measure of teacher success. What is your mission? Are your students an example of your mission? Are we using the most effective methods of carrying on Montessori education? This workshop will answer some of your questions as a teacher educator.

Floyd Creech—Refer to D-5.

F-6. Science of Yoga Basics: Daily Practice Part 2—Refer to A-6.

Mercedes Stewart—Refer to A-6.

Session G

G-1. Discovering the Secrets of the Three-hour Work Cycle—The process of natural development, or normalization, is aided by creating personal cycles of activity lasting three-hours or longer. In this workshop you'll learn: How to create a protected three-hour work period in your classrooms, why a three-hour work period is vital to brain and overall development, and how to help the child who has not tapped into this important learning cycle.

Maren Schmidt—Maren Schmidt, is a certified Montessori teacher with the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) and holds a Masters in Education from Loyola College in Maryland, as well as a B.A. from the University of Arkansas in Interpersonal and Organizational Communications. Maren has over twenty-five years experience working with young children. She co-authored *Understanding Montessori: A Guide for Parents*. In the works is a series of video interviews for Montessori Family Connection that focus on helping families get comfortably involved in their children's Montessori education. In addition, Maren is developing a series of webinars that continues her Kids Talk newspaper column theme of "helping adults understand kids".

Workshops & Presenters—Saturday, February 23

G-2. 360 Degree Plant-Program August to May in Your Classroom

This workshop presents a yearlong botany program with hands on activities, sequenced lessons, materials needed and extension possibilities for growing food for use in the classroom, gift making, art lessons and trash to treasure projects that will delight children of all ages.

Elizabeth Cain—Elizabeth Cain is a mother of three, MSW level social worker, AMS primary certified teacher, member of Summerville Artist Guild and owner of Summerville Montessori School of the Arts. She came to Montessori 20 years ago as a parent and has many wonderful experiences with children to share.

G-3. That Rocks! Learning Fun with Gemstones & Minerals

Stones are more than just solid pieces of rock found in your backyard. For centuries, cultures have utilized stones for help with good health, happiness and more. Children of all ages are fascinated with gem stones and minerals. Come and learn how to put together lessons and an amazing display for your classroom.

Lisa Bergrud & Jen Fuller—Both Lisa and Jen own Origins Montessori Academy in Parkville, MO. Lisa has a bachelor's degree in Journalism and a master's in public affairs. Lisa has been studying the multi-faceted uses of rocks and gem stones for 12 years.

G-4. Nature and Self-Mastery

Round table discussions are a valuable opportunity for guides to share their challenges and concerns with colleagues who may have had similar situations and can offer support and ideas. Elementary guides and assistants are welcome!

Franca Tarantino & Irene Irwin—Franca is School manager at Downtown Montessori, Toronto Ontario. She is a Master Casa Teacher Trainer and has a BSc. in Early Childhood Education. She also holds a Casa Diploma and a ECE Diploma. Irene Irwin is the School Manager at Downtown Montessori, Toronto, Ontario and a Master Casa Teacher trainer. She holds a Casa Diploma and an ECE diploma and has won Iron Woman 3 times.

G-5. A Seed is a Promise—Growing plants from seeds can be fun and easy using a growing frame with grow light. Learn how to start your garden indoors and simply transplant the seedling into the ground at the proper time.

Cheryl Spencer—Cheryl founded Columbia Montessori Children's House in 1973 and holds an AMS Teaching Credential from CMTE/NC. She has been a Primary teacher, teacher trainer and Montessori Consultant for many years and is still enjoying her students, both young and old. She has a special love of gardening with children.

G-6. Adolescent Round Table—Round table discussions are a valuable opportunity for guides to share their challenges and concerns with colleagues who may have had similar situations and can offer support and ideas.

Facilitator—TBD

Session H

H-1. Critical Keys for Understanding the Mathematical Mind

Mathematics is the language we use to talk about quantity, structure, space and change, as well as other qualities of the physical world. In this workshop we'll take a look at how the mathematical mind is aided by the child's work in both the primary and elementary Montessori environments.

Maren Schmidt—Refer to G-1.

H-2. Connections: Science and Creativity—We'll define and discuss science and creativity, then explore the essential connections that develop in the child when exposed and encouraged in the creative arts. Participants will choose from three of the most essential yet often overlooked art experiences for the early childhood classroom and have a generous time to explore the natural tendency for humans to create.

Sherry Sweet—Dr. Sheryl Sweet Miller's began the Institute for Guided Studies in 1992 and is a founding member of Montessori Educational

Programs International (MEPI), the International Montessori Council and the Peace Academy, and the South Carolina Montessori Alliance. She has been instrumental in the beginnings of approximately 50 schools and has prepared hundreds of Montessori guides through her educational programs. Her latest project is creating her new home in Camden with husband Dr. Dan Miller.

H-3. Connecting the Urban/Suburban Child to Nature in the Montessori Classroom—For children in an urban or suburban setting, the natural world is as alien and distant as the surface of Mars. These children view the forests and its creatures as something fearful and threatening. The Montessori classroom can help urban/suburban children in many ways.

Sasha Malashenko—Sasha opened and currently manages a Montessori school just outside Montréal, Québec. Having received her training with the CMTEI, she is currently working towards becoming a teacher trainer with Dr. Daniel Jutras of the Institute. She holds a B.A. in History and B.Sc. from Concordia University in Montréal.

H-4. The Sensory Scientist!—What is an innovative, yet appropriate way to include science in your toddler environment? Maria Montessori said, "the hands are the instruments of man's intelligence." A toddler's sensory experience becomes a scientific discovery by what is placed in the hand. Refresh with new ideas to incorporate science into your toddler's everyday sensory experience.

Sarah Forseth and Carolyn Leslie—Sarah received a Bachelor's degree in English at the University of South Carolina, and continued her studies in early childhood, with an emphasis on respect-based education philosophies. She holds a MEPI Infant/Toddler certification; and she fulfilled requirements for RIE I. She currently serves as the Infant/Toddler Program Director for Institute For Guided Studies.

H-5. Learning to Laugh, Laughing to Learn—Laughter engages the body and brain. Learn how to incorporate laughter as a daily practice for exercise, health, well-being, and improved memory. Laughter can be an exhilarating exercise and the affects are calming and can restore or enhance a normalized classroom. The current brain research agrees that laughter is a powerful learning tool and indeed the best medicine.

Kristie Norwood—Kristie Norwood has been involved in Montessori environments since 2003. She currently works at the Institute for Guided Studies as an administrative assistant. She is a certified Laughter Yoga instructor and co-leader of the Columbia (SC) Laughter Yoga Club.

H-6. Nurturing Creativity—The power of the imagination is active in the young child and the adolescent. And the promotion of creativity is a well known concept in Montessori pedagogy. Join this workshop to experience innovative and varied ways of cultivating creativity in the Montessori classroom and the Montessori guide.

Melody Mosby & Heather Mosby—Melody and Heather co-teach in the Montessori School of Athens, GA. With Heather's background in ethnicity and sociology and Melody's lifetime experience as a Montessori educator and teacher trainer, together they have developed innovative lessons and extensions merging world culture and the creative arts for the young child and adolescent.

Sunday Bonus, Feb 24

BG-1. Science Explorations and More!—The Brookgreen Gardens offers a multitude of environments to explore science concepts at any level from many perspectives. Whether searching for sculptures cast in bronze, or trying to find creatures from different animal families, there is always something new to discover. This workshop will offer a variety of activities for you to experience in the 9,100 acres of North America's Largest Sculpture Garden. Mary Helen Cline, Beti Wyn Holcombe, and others will guide this experiential workshop.

Hands for Peace - Registration - February 22nd and 23rd

Participant Information - please print all information

Name: _____ Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Email: _____

A confirmation will be sent to this email address

School you are affiliated with: _____

Emergency contact name and phone: _____

* Session Selections *

Friday Workshops - please circle first and second choices

Session A—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
Session B—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
Session C—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
Session D—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6

Saturday Workshops - please circle first and second choices

Session E—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
Session F—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
Session G—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
Session H—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6	2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6

Sunday Bonus - please check if you plan to attend

BG-1. Science Explorations _____

Volunteers are needed!

Please check one if you would like to volunteer.

Friday ___ Saturday ___

MEPI Members—circle your choice (s)

	<u>Advance</u>	<u>After Feb 15th</u>
Full Conference—Friday and Saturday	\$165.00	\$265.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$115.00	\$215.00
MEPI membership	\$45.00	\$45.00
Total Conference Fee	\$____.00	\$____.00

Non-Members—circle your choice (s)

Full Conference—Friday and Saturday	\$215.00	\$315.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$165.00	\$265.00

MEPI Interns—in good standing

Full Conference Fee	\$90.00	\$190.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$80.00	\$180.00

Checks/money orders made payable to: **MEPI** or Pay by credit card through the

MEPI office or via **PayPal** at our website: mepiforum.org

Mail completed registration form and check (if applicable) to: **MEPI**

**PO Box 6
Smithville, IN 47458**

Cancellation Policy

A written request for all refunds must be sent to the MEPI business office no later than March 5, 2013. Requests received after this date will not be honored. Membership fees are non-refundable.

a. Refund of registration fee less \$35 processing fee if received by Feb. 1, 2013.

b. After Feb. 1, 2013 an additional \$45 for food and beverages will also be deducted from the refund."

Space is Limited!

This conference sold out last year. Make sure to get your

Registration form in by

February 15

to ensure you can attend!

Conference Location

Litchfield Beach & Golf Resort

www.litchfieldbeach.com

14276 Ocean Hwy

Pawleys Island, SC 29585

1-888-766-4633

Prices range from

\$79.00 to \$99.00 if you

mention MEPI. Room block is effective until Feb 15th. After that date,

the price will increase.

Friday Lunch and Keynote

Boxed Lunch Selection:

- Turkey
- Roast Beef
- Veggie
- Not attending lunch